

REMARKS -- SPECIFICATION

The section BACKGROUND -- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION section has been updated to reflect the fact that both references cited had issued as patents.

The specification was also modified with reference to the Kohn invention, because during the prosecution phase, applicant determined that the Kohn invention may not be referring to a lumbar support, but the "small of the back" which is still unclear to the applicant.

A number of grammatical errors were corrected.

Also, an additional paragraph has been added to the description to better define the terms used for the lumbar support in the claims and also to clarify that the term "elongated" is not to be construed to limit the claims from covering the variations of the lumbar support described in the referenced patent which discloses the lumbar support. The particular concern are the lumbar supports which have about 2-3" of relatively soft cushion material in the side to side center of the lumbar support. The specification already makes some reference to this on page 29 line18.

REMARKS -- CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as discussed by phone, with two exceptions. First, claim 9 has been changed from using the word "anti-slip" to "generally slip resistant". This is consistent with claim 20 which had been previously amended. Second, the word "generally" has been inserted in claims 1c and 11b before "firm lumbar support". This is added to not limit the lumbar support from using variations disclosed in the cited incorporated reference.

REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTIVE ASSISTANCE

The undersigned has made a diligent effort to amend the claims of this application to make them

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in conformance with requirements. If for any reason the claims of this application are not believed to be in full condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims pursuant to MPEP 707.07(j) or in making constructive suggestions pursuant to MPEP 706.03(d) in order that this application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Very respectfully,



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CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to (703) 308-3686 on March 6, 1997.



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Walter J. Albecker III Date